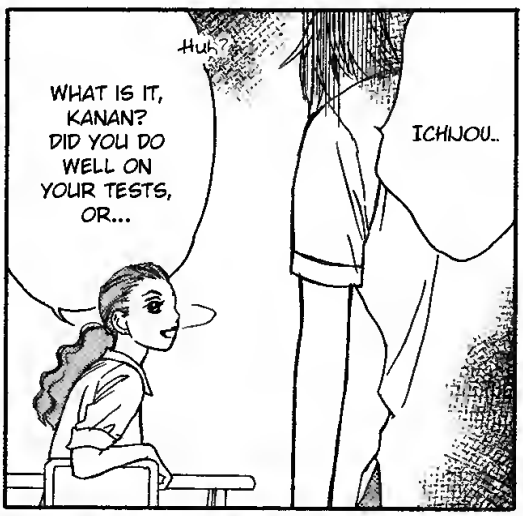
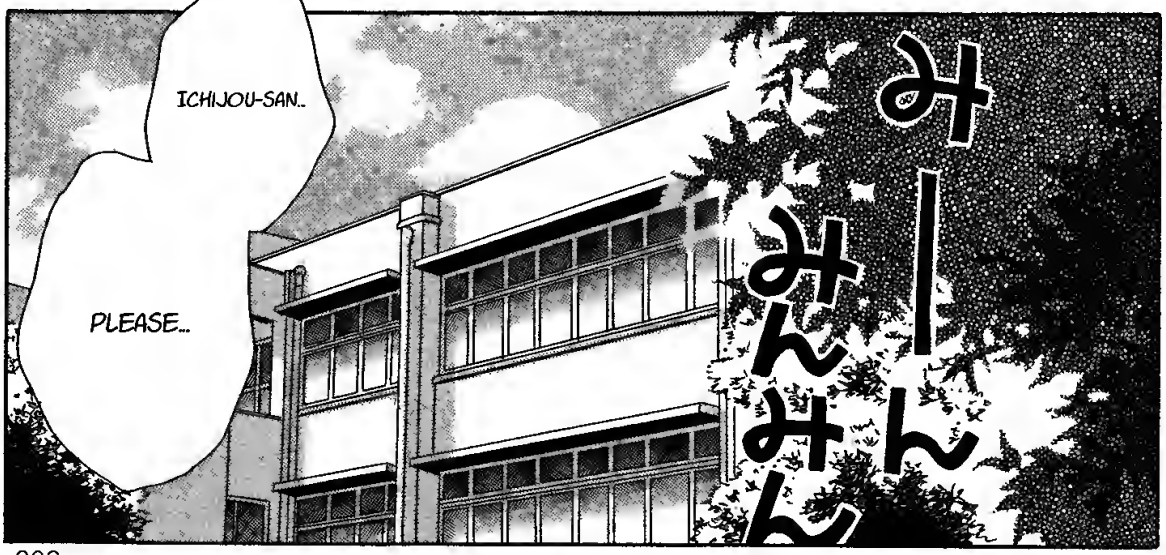
WAH!
A GHOST?!


Huh?
ICHIJOU..
WHAT IS IT, KANAN? DID YOU DO WELL ON YOUR TESTS, OR...

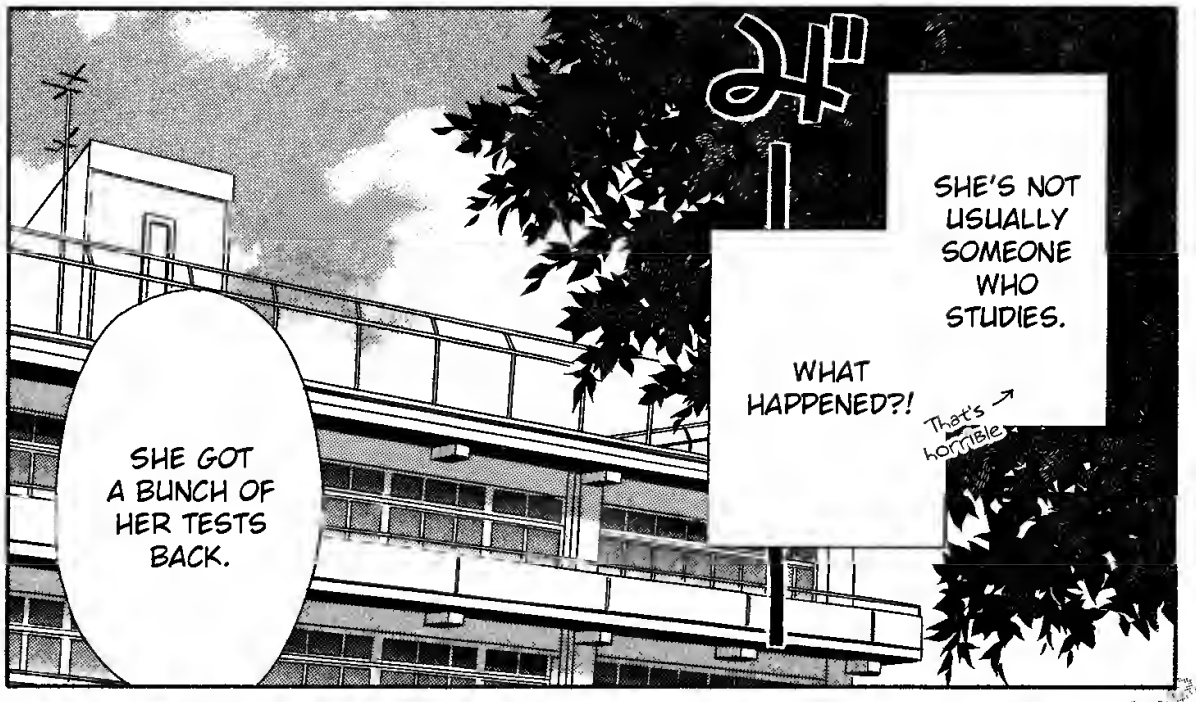

ICHIJOU-SAN..
PLEASE...
みーんみんみん

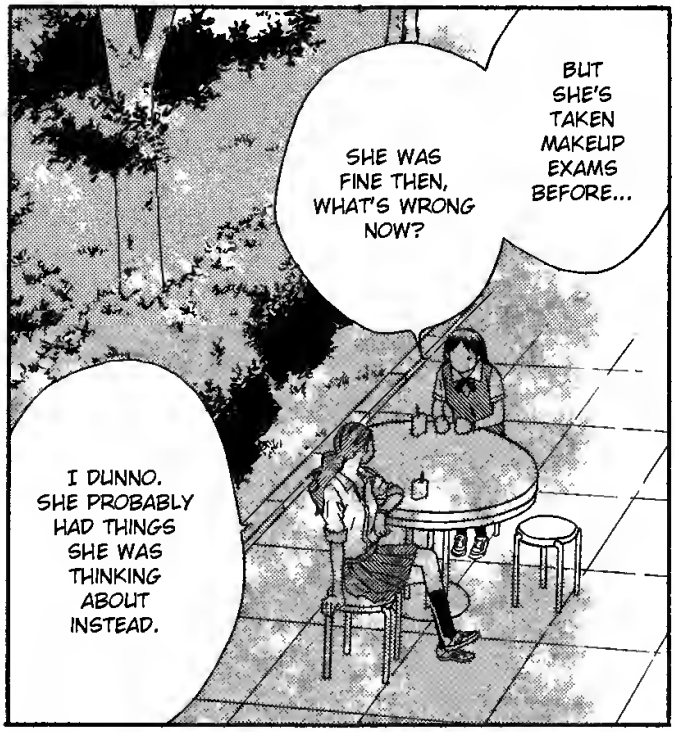
candy

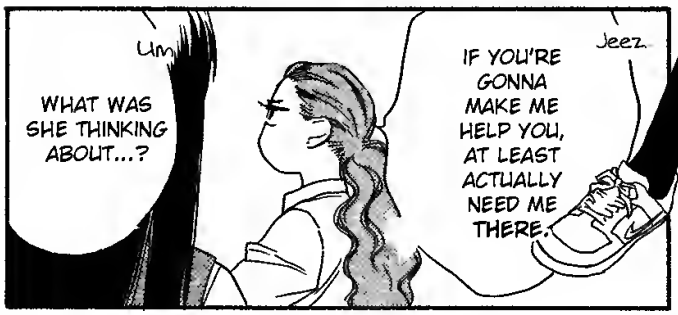
鈴木有布子 Yufuko Suzuki

CHAPTER 1

LATELY,
I HAVEN'T SEEN THE GIRL I LIKE.
WHEN I SEND HER A TEXT ABOUT GOING HOME...
From: Miyamoto Kanan
Subject: Sorries! ;;
After club, I'll be in the library studying, so go home without me.
AND THE NEXT DAY...
From: Miyamoto Kanan
Subject: Sorry
I'm in the library aga
go home without me.
AND THE NEXT DAY AFTER THAT...
ubject: Re:
SORRY m(_ _)m
お!

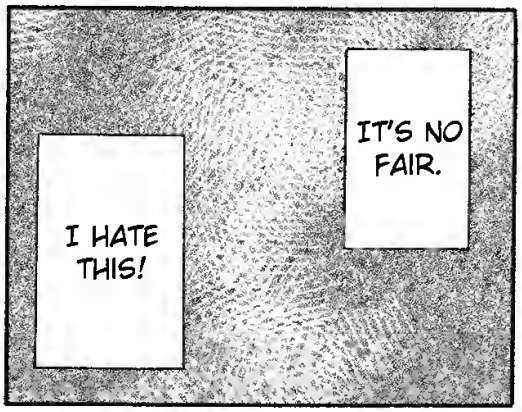

24
SHE'S NOT USUALLY SOMEONE WHO STUDIES.
WHAT HAPPENED?!
That's horrible
SHE GOT A BUNCH OF HER TESTS BACK.

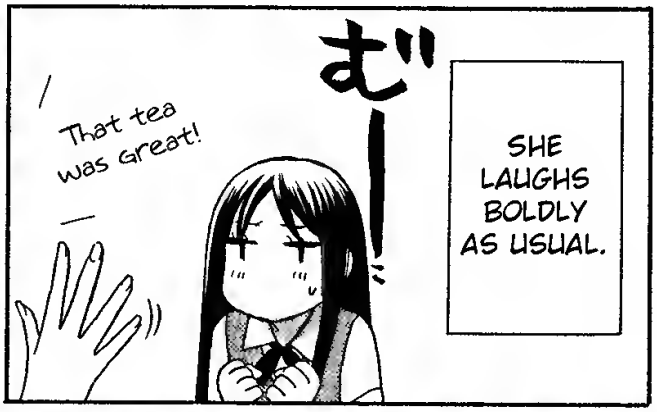

BUT SHE'S TAKEN MAKEUP EXAMS BEFORE...
SHE WAS FINE THEN, WHAT'S WRONG NOW?
I DUNNO. SHE PROBABLY HAD THINGS SHE WAS THINKING ABOUT INSTEAD.

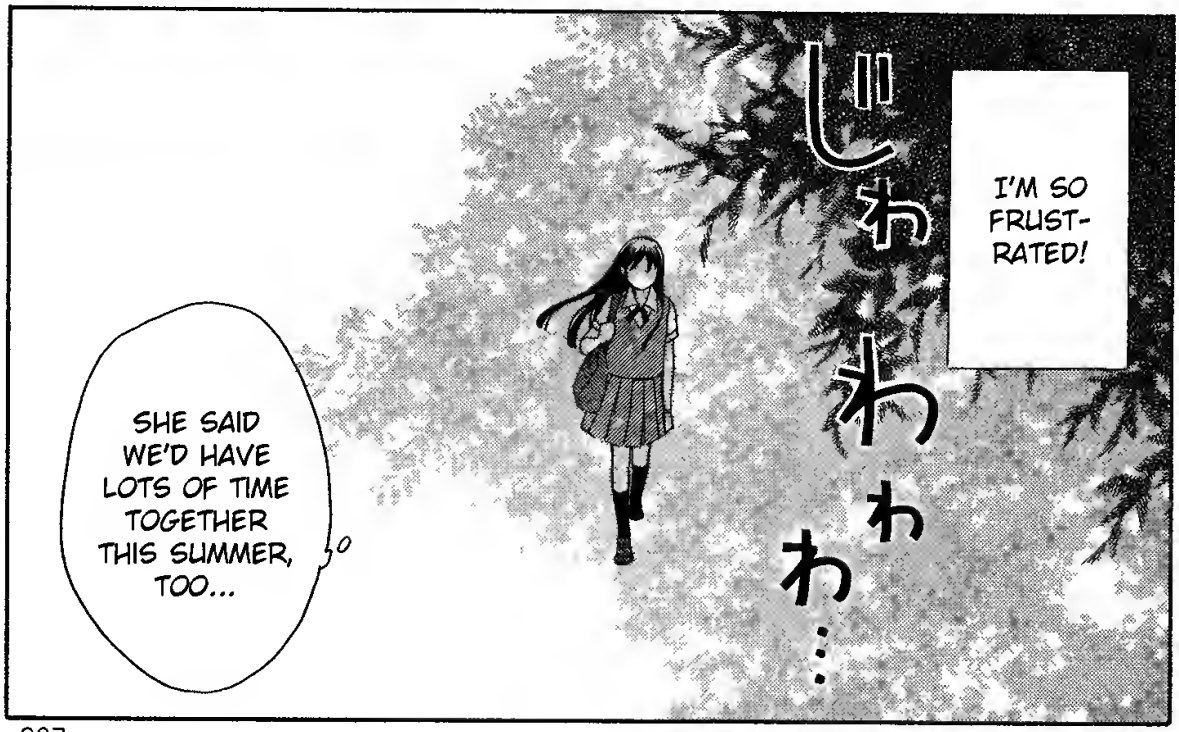

Um
WHAT WAS SHE THINKING ABOUT...?
Jeez.
IF YOU'RE GONNA MAKE ME HELP YOU, AT LEAST ACTUALLY NEED ME THERE.

MY LOVER'S FRIEND
I GUESS IT BROKE HER TO PIECES!
SHE FAILED EVERY SUBJECT! NEXT WEEK'S THE MAKEUP EXAMS.

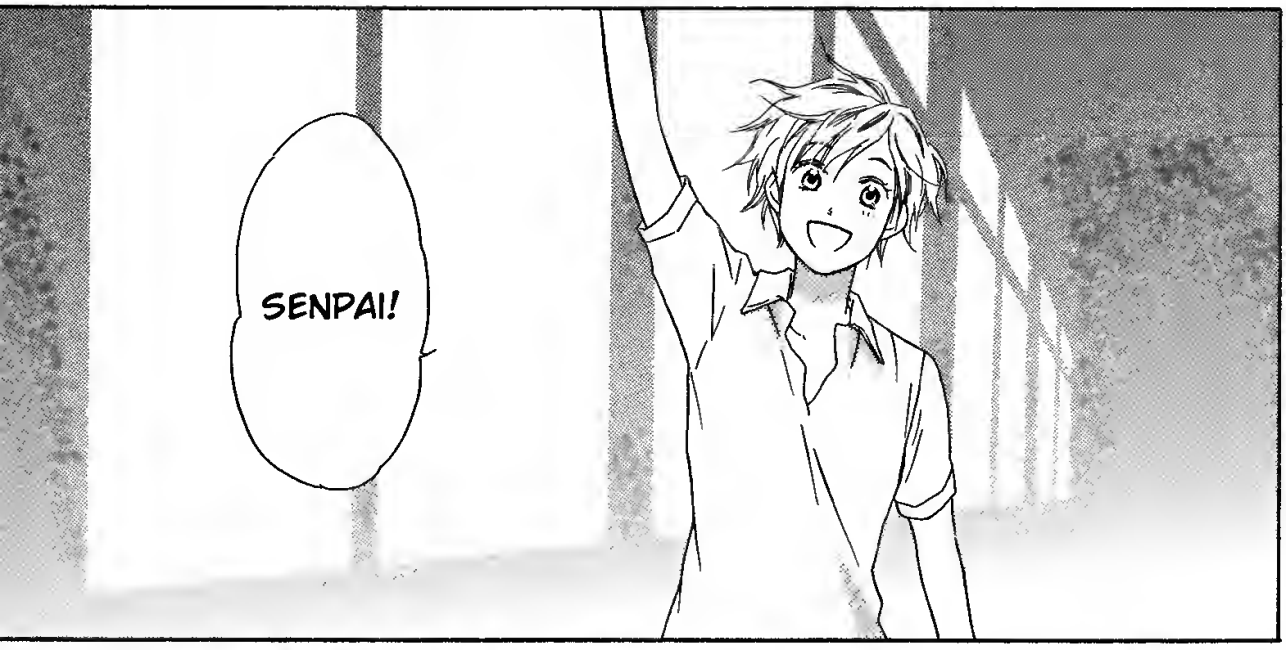
SHE SAID THAT, EVEN THOUGH SHE'S TOLD ME BEFORE
THAT SHE KNOWS EVERYTHING ABOUT HER
YOU'LL HAVE TO ASK HER YOURSELF.
I DUNNO.

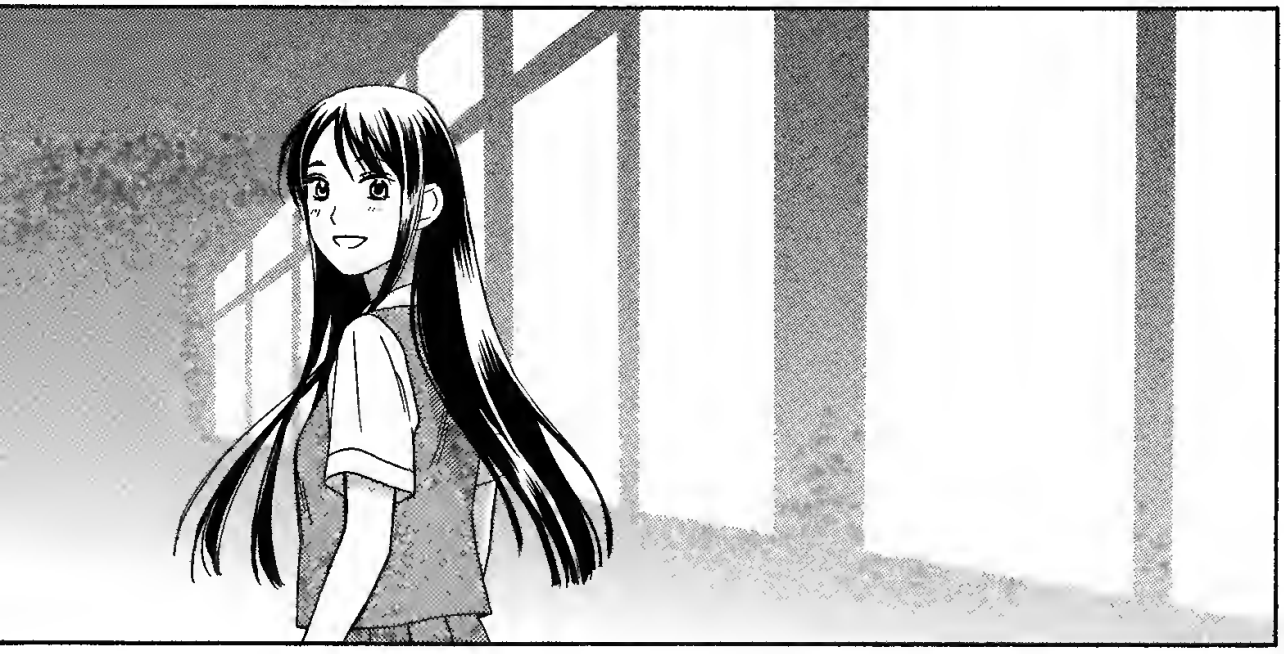

IT'S NO FAIR.
I HATE THIS!

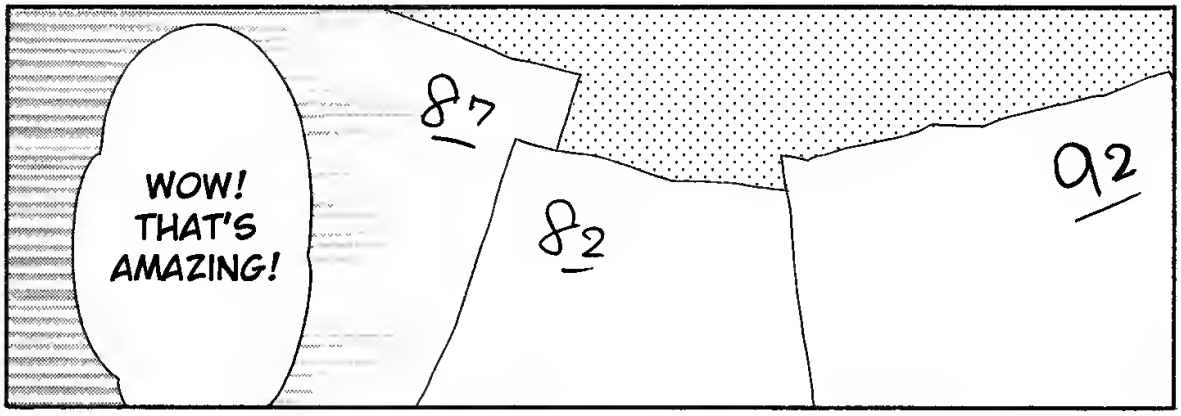

むー
That tea was great!
SHE LAUGHS BOLDLY AS USUAL.

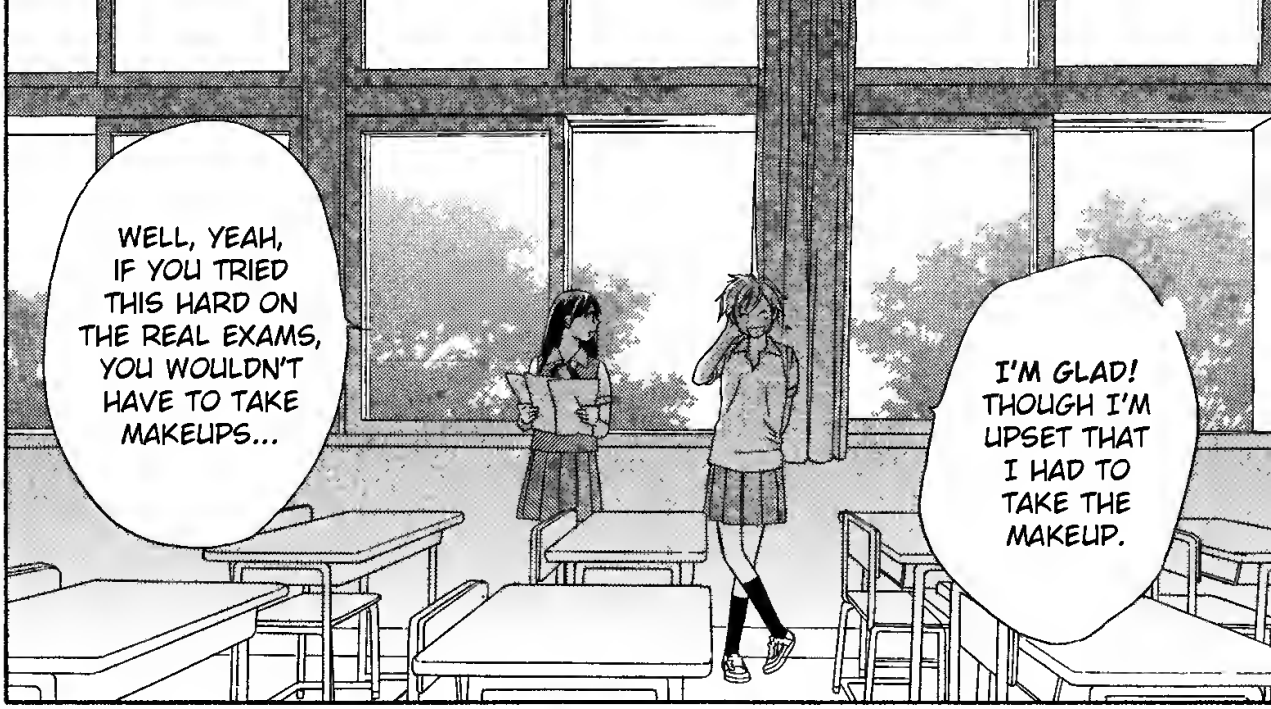

I'M SO FRUST-RATED!
じわわわわ…
SHE SAID WE'D HAVE LOTS OF TIME TOGETHER THIS SUMMER, TOO...

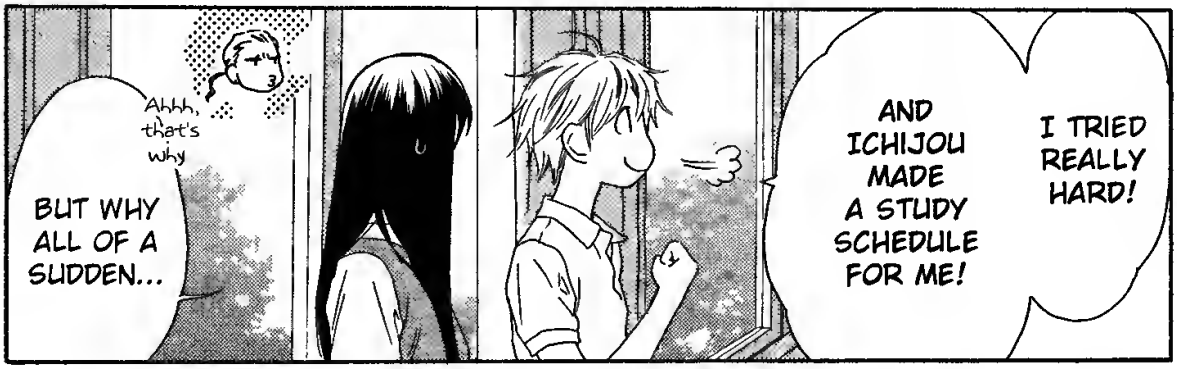
Lots of time!
KANAN, YOU LIAR.
SUMMER IS GOING TO END.
WHEN MY EXAMS GET CLOSE,
SCHOOL ATTENDANCE IS VOLUNTARY FOR 3RD YEARS, SO I WON'T COME TO SCHOOL THAT OFTEN
IT'S GETTING HARDER AND HARDER TO SEE HER...


SENPAI!

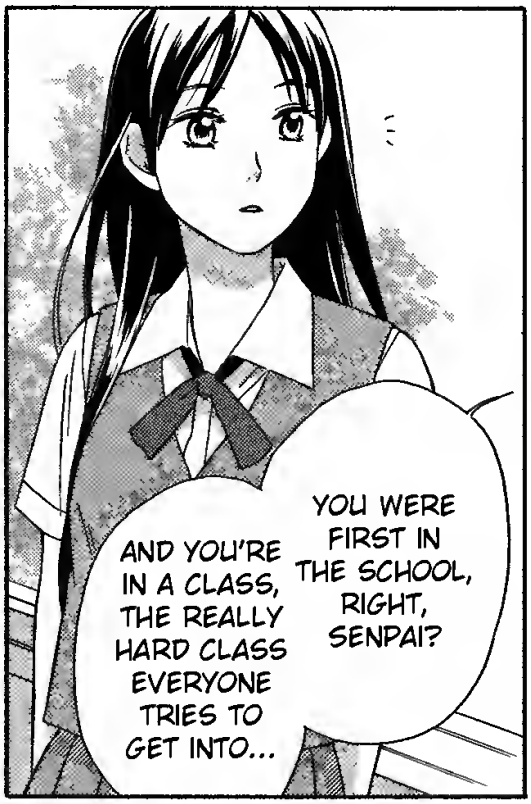



WOW! THAT'S AMAZING!
87
82
92


WELL, YEAH, IF YOU TRIED THIS HARD ON THE REAL EXAMS, YOU WOULDN'T HAVE TO TAKE MAKEUPS...
I'M GLAD! THOUGH I'M UPSET THAT I HAD TO TAKE THE MAKEUP.


Ahhh, that's why
BUT WHY ALL OF A SUDDEN...
AND ICHIJOU MADE A STUDY SCHEDULE FOR ME!
I TRIED REALLY HARD!

AND THAT'S WHEN I THOUGHT,
Third year test results
Hmmm
Kanan, this is the third year's floor.
NOW SENPAI AND HER "FRIENDS" WILL BE HANGING OUT...


YOU WERE FIRST IN THE SCHOOL, RIGHT, SENPAI?
AND YOU'RE IN A CLASS, THE REALLY HARD CLASS EVERYONE TRIES TO GET INTO...

KANAN...
I WONDERED, WHY WOULD SENPAI WANT A FAILURE LIKE ME BY HER SIDE?
I'M SURE YOU'LL DO GREAT AT WHATEVER YOU WANT TO DO IN YOUR FUTURE, SENPAI.
BUT I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT I WANT TO DO...
IF YOU DO WELL, THEN I'M SURE EVERYONE ELSE AROUND YOU DOES WELL, TOO, RIGHT?
.....

BUT YOU KNOW,
BUT...
I REALLY WANT TO SPEND IT BY YOUR SIDE, SENPAI.
I HAVE TO TRY HARD, SO NOBODY WILL LAUGH AT ME WHEN I'M WITH YOU.

YOU'RE GOING TO GRADUATE BEFORE ME, AND BE A PART OF THE WORLD...
I DON'T WANT YOU TO WORRY...
SO I'LL GAIN A LITTLE CONFIDENCE IN MYSELF.

I DECIDED THAT I'D START TRYING A LITTLE MORE.

...ARE YOU CRYING?

MY GIRLFRIEND CRIES EASILY.
NO WAY! YOU WOULDN'T CRY! YOU STILL HAVE A LONG WAY TO GO BEFORE GRADUATION!

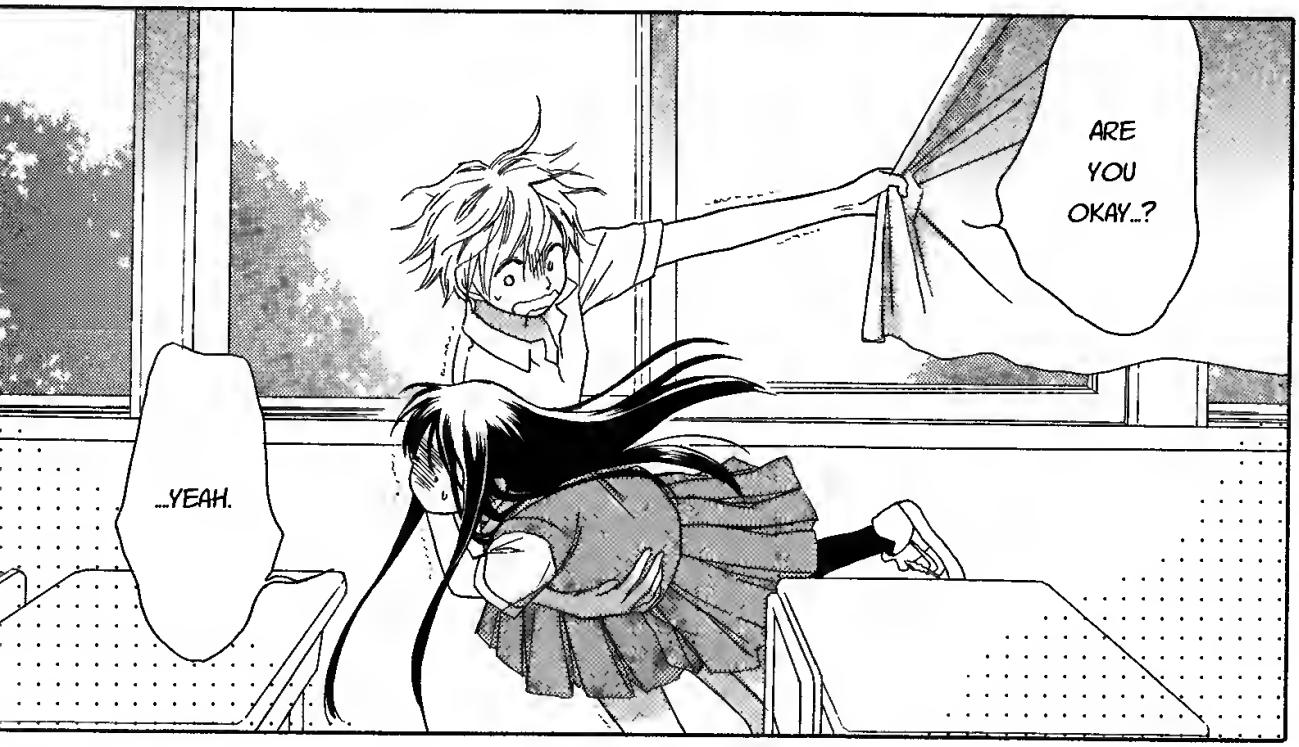
MY GIRLFRIEND...
HEY SENPAI, DO YOU WANNA LIVE TOGETHER?

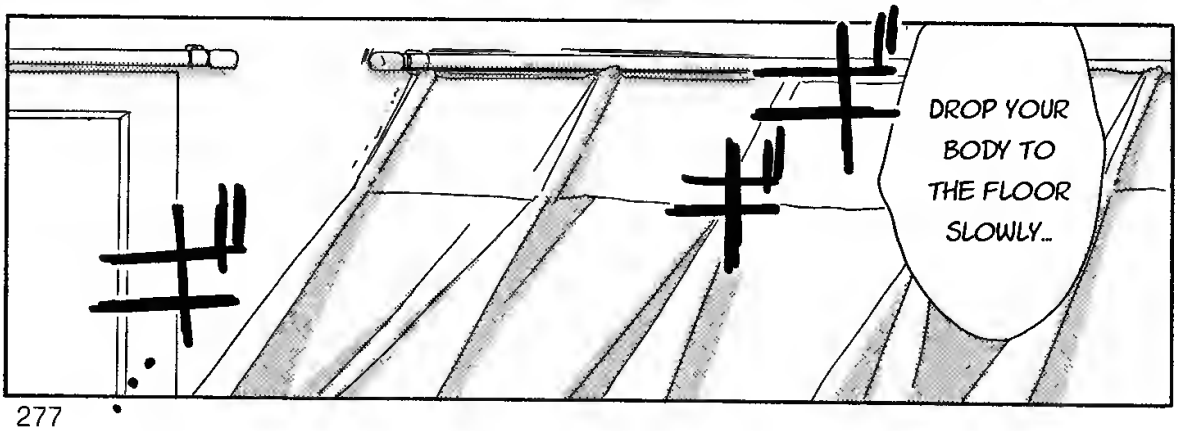
And that girl, too
I'M... WORRIED ABOUT THAT, TOO.
BUT I AM KIND OF WORRIED.
HOW AM I GONNA WOO YOU WHEN YOU'RE NOT AROUND?
MY GIRLFRIEND WORRIES A LOT. (SO DO I.)

SOMETIMES, SHE SAYS THINGS WITH SUCH KINDNESS AND LOVE
THAT MY HEART STOPS
KANAN.
AFTER I GRADUATE, LET'S RENT A ROOM SOMEWHERE AND LIVE TOGETHER!
THEN WE WON'T HAVE TO WORRY SO MUCH.
AND NOBODY WILL GET IN OUR WAY.

WHY?!
YOU'RE NOT ALLOWED TO GET ANY CLOSER!
S-
STOP!!
I HAD GYM TODAY, SO I'M KINDA SWEATY AND STINK...
HEY! SERIOUSLY! DON'T!
むぅぅ
……
NO!!
IT CAN'T BE THAT BAD...

WAH!
AH!


ARE YOU OKAY...?
...YEAH.


DROP YOUR BODY TO THE FLOOR SLOWLY...

ばっ
ばっ
ばっ
W-
W-
WAAAHHH!
ばさあっ
……
もぞ…
ガタガタ

KANAN....
KANAN, ARE YOU OKAY?!
ばナシ
ゴロ
....NO.
NO! KANAN!
WAKE UP!
WAKE UP!
KA...

AH.
OH NO, SHE HIT HER HEAD..
THE NURSE...!
カーテン
I PASSED OUT FOR A SECOND, I REALLY DID!
AHHHHH!! WAIT, WAIT!
NOOO, STOP, I'M SORRYYY!!
I'M GOING TO SMELL YOU NOW!

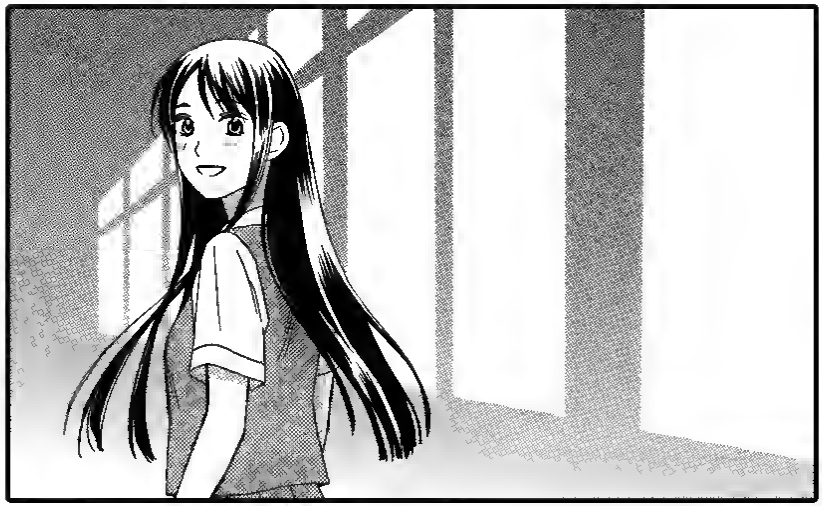
AHA!

HUH.
THE TIPS OF YOUR HAIR...
FEEL SO SMOOTH.
...YEAH. YOU'VE NEVER GROWN OUT YOUR HAIR?

WHY?
NOPE.
MY HAIR'S PROBABLY HOT ALL THE WAY TO THE TIPS.
SENPAI.
YOUR LIPS ARE WARM, TOO...

THE FIRM TEXTURE OF THE TORN CURTAIN
AND THE SLIGHT SCENT OF SWEAT
.....AH.
THEY'RE ALL MEMORIES OF A HAPPY TIME.
THE SOUND OF THE CICADAS IN THE DISTANCE
AND THE SILENCE THAT FILLED THE CLASSROOM AFTER WE QUIETED DOWN

HAH...
LIKE THAT, THE SUMMER ENDED
AND I NEVER THOUGHT THAT A TIME WOULD COME WHEN WE'D GROW APART.
END



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